Topic: Arranging conditionals in a logical chain

Question: Which one of the conditionals below is the logical conclusion of the three statements above?

If the cat's away, then the mice will play chess.

If the mice play chess, then they will get smart.

If the mice get smart, then the cat will be humiliated.

Answer choices:

A If the mice play chess, then the cat's away.

B If the cat is humiliated, then it is away.

C If the mice are smart, then they will play chess.

D If the cat's away, then it will be humiliated.

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Solution: D

To find the logical conclusion, take the "if part" of the first statement, and add it to the "then part" of the last statement.

> If **the cat's away**, then the mice will play chess.
>
> If the mice play chess, then they will get smart.
>
> If the mice get smart, then **the cat will be humiliated**.

Therefore, the logical conclusion is

> If **the cat's away**, then **it will be humiliated**.

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Topic: Arranging conditionals in a logical chain

Question: Which step below would work for the missing step?

The following two statements are part of a three step logical chain, in which the middle step is missing.

1) If the stars are out, then the sun has gone down.

2)

3) If it's time to party, then there will be refreshments.

Answer choices:

A If the sun has gone down, then it's time to party.

B If it's time to party, then the stars are out.

C If there will be refreshments, then the stars are out.

D If the sun has gone down, then the stars are out.

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Solution: A

Here's the reasoning:

The "then part" of the first conditional gives us the "if part" of the second conditional

1) If the stars are out, then **the sun has gone down**.

2) If **the sun has gone down**, ..

The "if part" of the third conditional must come from the "then part" of the second conditional.

2) ..... then **it's time to party**

3) If *it's time to party*, then there will be refreshments

Put both halves of 2) together, and we can say that the missing statement is

If **the sun has gone down**, then **it's time to party**.

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Topic: Arranging conditionals in a logical chain

Question: The four statements below can be rearranged to form a logical chain that will imply a conditional conclusion. Which one of the statements below is the conclusion?

If your dog wrecks the lawn, then you will have to buy sod.

If you have a dog, then you will give him a bone.

If your dog digs a hole, then he will wreck the lawn.

If you give your dog a bone, then he will dig a hole.

Answer choices:

A If your dog digs a hole, then he will make you mad.

B If your lawn is wrecked, then you gave your dog a bone.

C If you have a dog, then you will have to buy sod.

D If your dog has a bone, then you gave it to him.

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Solution: C

Arrange the conditionals in the following order, where the beginning of each condition follows from the end of the previous condition.

If you have a dog, then you will give him a **bone**.

If you give your dog a **bone**, then he will dig a **hole**.

If your dog digs a **hole**, then he will **wreck the lawn**.

If your dog **wrecks the lawn**, then you will have to **buy sod**.

The conclusion is C:

If you have a dog, then you will have to buy sod.

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